

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 003021  
ORIGIN INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 MMO-01 PM-04 PPT-01 SCA-01  
PER-01 SS-15 SP-02 IGA-02 DODE-00 /055 R

DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA : W MOORE; INR/OIL: C C MOOR; A:/W:GADIE  
APPROVED BY INR/OIL/ W C JONES III  
ISA/NA - JREED  
DIA - W D CRITTENBERGER  
AF/W - LT COL WORKUS  
AF/W - R HOURDEK  
M/MO - G MAYS  
INR/OIL - D CARPENTER  
SCA - PTT - C LOWENGART  
PM/SAS - H PRECHT  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
DIA

-----070006Z 097403 /70

P 062237Z JAN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRTORITYY  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 003021

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, MILI, TO, DM, IV, ML, NG, UV

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SUBJECT: PLANS TO REDUCE ABIDJAN DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE

REF: A) LOME 2715, B) OUAGADOUGOU 4058, C) ABIDJAN 11278

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY LOME'S AND OUAGADOUGOU'S  
COMMENTS ON PLANS FOR ABIDJAN ATTACHE OFFICE. DECISION TO  
ABOLISH 0-4 SLOT WAS PART OF WORLDWIDE DIA CUTBACK WHICH

AFFECTS SOME 200 POSITIONS.

2. BOTH DEPARTMENT AND DOD APPRECIATE EMBASSY LOME'S AND OUAGADOUGOU'S CONCERNS REGARDING THE EFFECTS REDUCTION MIGHT HAVE ON USG'S CAPABILITY TO MONITOR EVENTS IN MILITARY-RULED BENIN, NIGER, TOGO, AND UPPER VOLTA. WE ARE SATISFIED, HOWEVER, THAT LOSS OF SLOT WILL NEITHER REDUCE THE EFFICIENCY OF REMAINING OFFICER TO COVER HIS FIVE-COUNTRY CIRCUIT NOR THE FREQUENCY OF DAO VISIT. DIA ASSURES DEPARTMENT THAT SINGLE ATTACHE WILL HAVE THE RESOURCES TO MAINTAIN CURRENT TRAVEL AND WORKLOAD OF BOTH ATTACHE OFFICERS.

3. DEPARTMENT AND DOD REALIZE THAT SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MAY SOON BEGIN IN UPPER VOLTA. HOWEVER, UNDER THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961, AS AMENDED, DEFENSE ATTACHES

MAY NOT BE INVOLVED IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE AFTER 1 OCTOBER 1977. THUS, UNLESS LAW IS CHANGED, ABIDJAN DATT WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO MONITOR ANY FUTURE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES PROGRAM IN UPPER VOLTA.

4. FOR REASONS STATED ABOVE, AND DUE NEED TO REDUCE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL RATHER THAN INCREASE, SUGGESTION REFTEL B TO OPEN BRANCH DAO IN OUAGADOUGOU NOT FEASIBLE.

5. WORLDWIDE MANPOWER REDUCTION OF OVER 200 POSITIONS DEVOTED TO HUMAN INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION EFFORT NECESSITATED DIA'S ELIMINATION OF ABIDJAN DAO 0-4 BILLET. DEFENSE ATTACHE (DATT) POSITION WILL REMAIN AT 0-6 (FULL COLONEL) CONFIDENTIAL

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LEVEL WITH SLOT TEMPORARILY FILLED BY EXTREMELY COMPETENT 0-5 NOW AT POST AFTER THE ROTATION OF PRESENT 0-6 INCUMBENT DATT WILL ALSO HAVE IN ABIDJAN AN ABLE WARRANT OFFICER TO BACKSTOP HIM ADMINISTRATIVELY.

6. DEPARTMENT AND ISA SHARE EMBASSY'S CONCERN ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF GROWING SOVIET PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE IN WEST AFRICA. THEREFORE SHOULD SUBSEQUENT EVENTS IN WEST AFRICA REQUIRE A BUILD UP OF DAO RESOURCES AUGMENTATION OF ABIDJAN DAO WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.

7. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT REPEAT NOT CONCUR WITH REQUEST TRANSMITTED REF C FOR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT FOR ABIDJAN DAO OPERATIONS COORDINATOR. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES POSSESSION OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT BY PERSON NOT INCLUDED ON DIPLOMATIC LIST MAY SERVE AROUSE SUSPICION OF GOIC OFFICIALS.

8. DIA AND ISA CONCUR.  
KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Reference:** 77 LOME 2715, 77 OUAGADOUGOU 4058, 77 ABIDJAN 11278  
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**To:** LOME ABIDJAN MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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